



Newsletter of the

May 2012

Troutdale Historical Society

BYGONE TIMES

Mark Your Calendars!

May 12 2012 Cemetery Tour

A "Grave" group will meet at the Barn Museum. Bus will leave at 9 a.m. Destination will be The Dalles. Bring a sack lunch. Cost for the trip is \$10.

July 21 Summerfest Parade and Penny Balch Library Dedication

Bring a lawn chair to the Depot Museum and watch the parade. Highway closes at 10. Dedication of new library will follow the parade with refreshments.

July 28
Save the Date!
Our annual
summer fundraiser
on the
Sandy River!
Art Auction-
Wine-Beer Tasting
Live Music

The 2012 Cemetery Tour to visit The Dalles

Troutdale Historical Society
Cemetery Tour
May 12, 2012
The Dalles ~ Wasco County
Leaving the Barn Museum
at 9:00 a.m.

**Here lies the father of 29
There would have been more
But he didn't have time**

The 2012 cemetery tour for the Troutdale Historical Society will visit the following cemeteries in The Dalles:

- ♦ St. Peter's Catholic founded in 1848 on the Catholic Mission, St. Peter's D.L.C. # 40. The earliest dated monument is 1852.
- ♦ G.A.R. (Grand Army of the Republic) founded in 1883, I.O.O.F. [The Dalles] founded in 1856 and Wasco County (Potters Field) used 1910 to 1949. These three cemeteries are side by side.
- ♦ Parklawn founded in 1955 which includes an acre set aside in 1978 for veterans, their wives and children.
- ♦ Pioneer [The Dalles] used 1860 to 1964. A Jewish cemetery was located next to Pioneer as was the Chinese Cemetery. The Jewish remains were moved to Portland. It is presumed most of the Chinese were returned to China.

Thank you to John Gerbish at Gresham Funeral Chapel for sponsoring this event!



On Jonathan Fiddle:

**On the 22nd of June
Jonathan Fiddle
Went out of tune**

Please call the office at 503-661-2164 to sign up for this fun adventure. Bring a sack lunch and drink! Cost is \$10 to help cover the cost of the bus. We will stop in Cascade Locks at the ice cream shack on the way home. You may also send an email to terry@troutdalehistory.org.

Member-of-the-Year announced at Annual Business Meeting



Dave Ripma, THS Board President, announced Jean Holman as Troutdale Historical Society's Member-of-the-Year at the annual business meeting held in Glenn Otto Park on April 15, 2012

Welcome New Members

*Arnold & Star Williams
Claire Carson Finkel*

Membership Voted on New Board of Directors for 2012-2013

Officers ~

Dave Ripma, President
Greg Handy, Vice-President
Sue Handy, Secretary
Tom Graves, Treasurer
Scott Cunningham, Past President

Directors~

Mona Mitchoff
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Len Otto

Endowment Donation

Gerald & Shirley Lambert
In Memory of **Vern Rathman**

Bill & Sharon Nesbit
In memory of **Vern Rathman, Doneva Shepard &
Muriel Walker**

Thank you to renewing members:

Donna Brown

*Robert & Nila Jackson
Lorraine E. Mackey*

Dennis & Mary Bryson

We Need a Grant Writer! If you have any experience, Please call the office 503-661-2164

Please support our important business sponsors!

Life and sports in Wood Village.

Another memoir on growing up in East County in the 1950s from Jim Glenn

Part One:

The morning before we moved to Wood Village, Tommy and I snuck over to say good-bye to the Statens (Elliott and Ruby, owners of the gas station at the west end of the Troutdale bridge). Mr. Staten was going up to Larch Mountain to cut some wood and invited us along. When we got up to where Mr. Staten always went, there on his favorite stump sat the Major

When the work was all done up on Larch Mountain, the Major would go over to his stump to roll a cigarette from his "makin's." We watched him make those things so many times that he let me roll one for him once in a while. He never let either of us smoke the dirty things, but it was a nifty little procedure that worked out pretty well in the '60s and '70s.

After supper that night, Dad sent a chill up both of our spines when he decided it was time to go to the chicken coop, retrieve the chickens and bring them to the chopping block where he was waiting with his trusted axe. That crazed guard rooster was in the chicken coop and all we wanted was distance from him, not to stalk him. Don't know to this day which one grabbed the meanest chicken in Troutdale, but it doesn't matter. With all the chickens fast asleep, the whole operation was uneventful and we had the chicken coop cleared out and were ready to move to Wood Village.

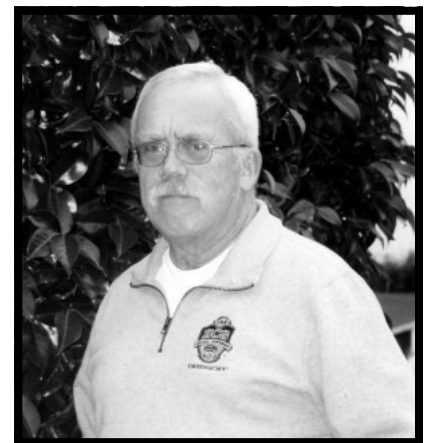
When we arrived in Wood Village that first day, I thought we had moved to Paradise. Paved streets with curbs. Brown August lawns heavily sprinkled with bright yellow dandelions and a fresh coat of whitewash on the maple trees. Houses so close together I could almost touch two of them at once. And kids. Every house had a kid. Or two. Or three. Or seven.

It wasn't long before a bunch of curious boys appeared in the street in front of our new home. One of the boys had a football and asked us if we would like to play Smear-em. We had never heard of that game before but we wanted to fit in so we said we

would. The boy with the ball flipped it onto the yard across the street from our house. In a flash Tommy ran to it and belly-flopped on the ball, all but hiding it from view. Just as fast, the neighborhood boys formed a circle around my little brother. He looked up at them from his spot on the grass, trying to figure out what was up. He didn't move from his sitting position, and the boys didn't move from where each was standing. The boys were sizing up one of the new kids, and my brother and me were sizing up the situation. Finally Tommy stood up with the football under one wing and chaos fast and furious fell upon him. Just as fast and just as furious, those 14 cuss words poured from Tommy's mouth. The Major would certainly have proud of his child prodigy that day. We were accepted immediately into the pack. Our newfound friends were players and so were we.

"...I always liked the guy except for his cussing and I believe Tommy liked him because of it."

smoking one of his home-made cigarettes. We all walked over to him as he greeted us with "Good morning," his customary barrage of 14 cuss words mixed in. The Major was a retired military man who lived in the Gorge and could he ever cuss. He didn't even need to be cranky to do it. I always liked the guy except for his cussing and I believe Tommy liked him because of it. Mr. Staten would warn us on the drive back to the river not to ever use that sort of talk, but that didn't work out so well.



More from Jim Next Month

Please support our important business sponsors!

From Dick Anderson: War Assets 1946-1948

For a short time, after the war, the Army Corp of Engineers building was used for War Assets. Here is a story from Dick Anderson.

After WWII the Government had large inventories of un-needed fixtures and machinery to dispose of.

Near the highway, railroad and airport the two warehouses at the north-east end of the Troutdale airport owned by Alcoa Aluminum plant were chosen.

In 1948 the Columbia River did not have as many dams as they do now to control water levels. A heavy snow pack in the Cascade Mountains and SW Canada and a warm spring, the Columbia River was at a record high levels. All low lying areas were on alert for flooding.

When the Aluminum Plant was built in the early 40's, a levee (dike) was built from Troutdale north to and around the east side of the airport or north along the Sandy River to the Columbia River. From there it went west to Portland. Marine Drive was built on top of it in later years. Most of the levee still exists.

Ford Motor Co. built a new design for passenger cars for 1949. By the spring of 1948 they began shipping to dealerships, with orders that they were

not to be seen by anyone except authorized employees. Most dealers did not have storage for them, so they had to look elsewhere. The dealers in East Portland made an arrangement with the owners of War Assets in May of 1948.

When Vanport flooded on Memorial Day weekend due to a breach in a railroad bed next to it, everyone along the river were concerned. The Ford dealers made a decision to move the cars to high ground.

My dad had been working for War Assets in 1940-1948 as warehouse security. After hearing of the dealers plans to move the cars to safety of higher ground, he offered his place on Hensley Road which was five acres of cherry and apple trees. After looking at the property they decided to take his offer. That night a crew of drivers from all the dealers drove all the cars, 50 plus up to dad's place. They parked them in the orchard, covered them with car covers and provided security.

Within a few days the Colum-

bia River receded enough to return the cars back to the warehouse. In mid June the dealers had the cars in their showrooms for the showing of the all new design, which was a huge event.

Dad's orchard went back to growing cherries and apples.

So End of Story,
Dick Anderson, Sisters, OR

Dick Anderson was interviewed by Sharon Nesbit at The THS Annual Business Meeting and Program in 2011.



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Bygone Times



The Baker Beech Tree Today



The house at Melrose Farm.

Dec. 1, 1988 from Shirley (Baker) Yost

A few facts you might want for Newsletter:

When Bill Baker's and my grandparents lived on the Melrose farm, The Baseline (Stark) ended at Troutdale Road. (Troutdale Road was not paved and was thick with dust, my father, Ralph O. Baker, said.) People would ride out to the end of Baseline, some in automobiles, from Portland. They would be hungry and thirsty, and would want Grandma Baker to serve them a meal. She wouldn't do it, as she had enough to do. However, she did sell them buttermilk. (She made and sold butter, as they had milk cows.)


Notes from Shirley (Baker) Yost

**We would love to
have your stories
about growing up or
living in Troutdale.**

**Contact Terry at the
Depot office,
503-661-2164 or
terry@troutdalehistory.org.**

**Everyone has stories
to tell!**

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THIS NEEDS YOU!

Can you volunteer at one of our museums for a Saturday? or for a special tour? Take photos at an event? **HELP** on the newsletter? Dust? Scrapbook? **HELP** with fundraisers? Do you know or work for a company who would donate goods or services?...Call the office to volunteer. The smallest task helps a lot!

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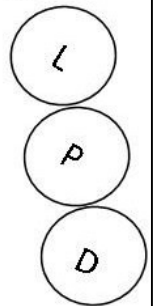
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Edwin E. Smith

Edwin E. Smith was born in Portland, Oregon January 4th, 1920.

Ed died peacefully on March 17th, at the age of 92, surrounded by people he loved and who loved him. His love of family, friends, the outdoors and that smile, will be remembered.

Ed joined the Navy in 1940 and served as Lieutenant Commander in the Pacific Theatre at Guadalcanal, Midway, the Aleutians, and then Japan. He was proud of his service in the Navy and remained in the Reserves for many years.

Ed married Jerie Schultz 68 years ago on March 5th. They had three daughters: Dianne, Pam, and Star and lived in Fairview for more than 13 years. The family now includes six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

He was a wonderful role model with a strong work ethic. Majoring in business, he graduated cum laude from the University of Portland in 1948. During his thirty-five year career with Farmers Insurance, he was promoted to Vice President of Governmental Affairs. He is still remembered for being instrumental in crafting the Personal Injury Protection law passed in Oregon which is now law in many states.

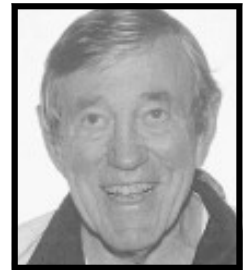
Ed loved the outdoors and shared his passion for hunting, fishing, and gardening with his family. He supported and encouraged his daughter's love of horses and took his grandchildren to fish in Alaska. Time spent in nature produced some of his biggest smiles. He and Jerie shared a love of traveling. They traveled extensively in the United States, Europe, and Asia. Those cherished memories were enjoyed throughout his life.

Ed was proud to become a member of the Sons of the American Revolution in 1979. His patriot ancestor, John Smith, was a Lieutenant in the Manchester, Vermont Militia. It was an honor for him to award medals of recognition to high school students. He also served on the Sacramento chapter of the ROTC for many years.

Ed was interested in genealogy and spent many happy hours collecting, writing, and publishing the family history. He discovered that an ancestor on both his and his wife's side of the family came over on the same ship in 1681!

Civil service was important to him. In the 1960s, he served as mayor of Fairview, Oregon. After retirement in Sacramento, he volunteered weekly at Senior Gleaners.

In his final years he suffered from a rare disease known as Progressive Supranuclear Palsy. Complications from this disease caused the pneumonia which took his life.



Muriel McKay Walker

Muriel McKay Walker, Corbett High graduate, died March 15. Born in 1918, she married L. Lisle Walker, who died in 1966 while climbing Mount Adams. A graduate of OSU, she then earned a library science degree and became a children's librarian, notably in the Gresham library where she enchanted thousands of children with her story hours. She served on the Reynolds School District Board, was active in Gresham and Rockwood Methodist churches, the Columbian Garden Club, as well as a host of other groups. She also enjoyed writing and wrote a piece on windbreaks and the East Wind, part of which is reprinted in our history, "It Could Have Been Carpdale."

Thank you- A Huge thank you to ***John Gerbish*** at Gresham Funeral Chapel for donating and helping us with some of the cost of the bus for our cemetery tour- Thank you to ***Mary Bryson, Star Williams and Carol Seraw*** for hosting the Harlow House and Barn Museums on third Saturday-Thank you to the ***Tuesday Ladies (Mona Mitchoff, Jean Holman, Barb Welsh, Heather Mitchoff, Judy Norby & Star Williams)*** for the incredible display at the Harlow House Museum of all the egg cups- Thank you to ***Sharon Nesbit*** for a wonderful and fun interview with Mother Francine at April's Meeting-Thank you to ***Mother Francine*** for coming to the program and for her wonderful stories and sense of humor-Thank you to Dave Ripma for stepping up in an emergency and taping the April program (DVD's are now available at the Depot)-Thank you to ***Greg & Sue Handy*** for all your work at Harlow House and the Barn- Thank you to ***Jan Vandiver*** for bringing cookies and coffee to all of our meetings all year long-Thank you to ***Len Otto*** for all of his hard work on organizing and leading the new exhibit committee.

Please support our important business sponsors!

Bygone Times



Troutdale Historical Society
104 SE Kibling St.
Troutdale, OR 97060
www.troutdalehistory.org
503-661-2164

Mission Statement: To gather, preserve and make available material relating to the history of the community of Troutdale, the Sandy River, the Columbia River Gorge and nearby area: To stimulate interest in and knowledge of, the locality's past.

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Troutdale, OR
Permit # 5**

Change service requested



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**Thank you renewing
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**John Gerbish
at**

Gresham Memorial Chapel

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